

### In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A blast furnace coke having high reactivity and high strength, ~~the blast furnace coke being a coke that can be obtained~~ produced by a method comprising ~~the steps of:~~

charging a coal blend comprising 60 wt% or more of semi-heavy caking coal having medium rank and low fluidity in which a content of a non-melting inert component is 30 vol% or more in total into a coke oven; and

coking the coal blend, ~~characterized by having~~ such that the coke has a pore size distribution in which a content ratio of pores having a diameter of less than 10  $\mu\text{m}$  is from 12 vol% to 15 vol% and a content ratio of pores having a diameter of from 10  $\mu\text{m}$  to 100  $\mu\text{m}$  is from 10 vol% to 15 vol%.

2. (Currently Amended) A blast furnace coke having high reactivity and high strength, ~~the blast furnace coke being coke that can be obtained~~ produced by ~~thea~~ method comprising ~~the steps of:~~

charging a coal blend comprising from 60 wt% to 95 wt% of semi-heavy caking coal having medium rank and low fluidity in which a mean reflectance (Ro) is from 0.9 to 1.1 and a maximum fluidity (MF) is 3.0 or less and the balance being a caking coal in which a mean reflectance (Ro) exceeds 1.1 into a coke oven; and

coking the coal blend, ~~characterized by having~~ such that the coke has a pore size distribution in which a content ratio of pores having a diameter of less than 10  $\mu\text{m}$  is from 12 vol% to 15 vol% and a content ratio of pores having a diameter of from 10  $\mu\text{m}$  to 100  $\mu\text{m}$  is from 10 vol% to 15 vol%.

3. (Original) The coke as set forth in Claim 1 or 2, wherein the balance of said coal blend is characterized by a caking coal in which a mean reflectance (Ro) is 1.3 or more and/or a semi-heavy caking coal in which a maximum fluidity (MF) is 3.0 or more.

4. (Currently Amended) The coke as set forth in ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3~~ or 2, wherein tumbler strength  $TI_6$  is characterized by being 83% or more.

5. (Currently Amended) The coke as set forth in ~~any one of Claims 1 to 4, characterized in that~~ or 2, wherein the pore size distribution is controlled such that a content ratio of pores having a diameter of less than 1  $\mu\text{m}$  is 6 vol% or more and a content ratio of pores having a diameter of 100  $\mu\text{m}$  or more is 20 vol% or less.

6. (Currently Amended) A production method of a blast furnace coke having high reactivity and high strength ~~characterized by comprising the steps of:~~

charging a coal blend comprising 60 wt% or more of semi-heavy caking coal having medium rank and low fluidity in which a content of a non-melting inert component is 30 vol% or more in total into a coke oven; and

coking the coal blend, ~~wherein the blast furnace coke is a coke having~~ such that the coke has a pore size distribution in which a content ratio of pores having a diameter of less than 10  $\mu\text{m}$  is from 12 vol% to 15 vol% and a content ratio of pores having a diameter of 10  $\mu\text{m}$  to 100  $\mu\text{m}$  is 10 vol% to 15 vol%.

7. (Currently Amended) A production method of a blast furnace coke having high reactivity and high strength ~~characterized by comprising the steps of:~~

charging a coal blend comprising from 60 wt% to 95 wt% of semi-heavy caking coal having medium rank and low fluidity in which a mean reflectance (Ro) is from 0.9 to 1.1 and a

maximum fluidity (MF) is 3.0 or less and the balance being a caking coke in which a mean reflectance (Ro) exceeds 1.1 into a coke oven; and

coking the coal blend, ~~wherein the blast furnace coke is a coke having~~ such that the coke has a pore size distribution in which a content ratio of pores having a diameter of less than 10  $\mu\text{m}$  is from 12 vol% to 15 vol% and a content ratio of pores having a diameter of from 10  $\mu\text{m}$  to 100  $\mu\text{m}$  is from 10 vol% to 15 vol%.

8. (Original) The production method as set forth in Claim 6 or 7, characterized by using a caking coal in which a mean reflectance (Ro) is 1.3 or more and/or a semi-heavy caking coal in which a maximum fluidity (MF) is 3.0 or more as the balance of said coal blend.

9. (Currently Amended) The production method as set forth in ~~any one of Claims 6 to 8~~ or 7, wherein the tumbler strength  $\text{TI}_6$  is characterized by being 83 % or more.

10. (Currently Amended) The production method as set forth in ~~any one of Claims 6 to 9, characterized in that~~ or 7, wherein the pore size distribution is controlled such that a volumetric content ratio of pores having a diameter of less than 1  $\mu\text{m}$  is 6 vol% or more and a volumetric content ratio of pores having a diameter of 100  $\mu\text{m}$  or more is 20 vol% or less.